

WORKSHOP Creating Coastal Landscapes: Colour, Texture & Natural Materials with Frances Hatch RWS

Price £125

Location RWS Gallery at Whitcomb Street

Date Saturday 31st October 2026

Time 10.30am – 4.30pm

About the Workshop

Explore the colours, textures and natural materials of our coastal landscapes in this hands-on workshop with artist Frances Hatch.

You'll start by working through a series of simple colour exercises, discovering the possibilities of the paints you have brought with you, selecting a limited palette for the day. Through colour mixing, you'll explore how this limited palette can be used to create the subtle colours and tones found in the natural world.

You'll then take your experiments further, using geological materials gathered from cliffs along the Dorset coast, including earths, chalks, clays and sands, to create pigments and textures that can be incorporated into your paintings.

Working from these colour and material prompts, you'll develop a coastal landscape painting inspired not only by what you see, but by memories, associations and imagination. Rather than simply reproducing a view, you'll discover how colour, texture and natural materials can conjure a sense of place.

Suitable for those with some experience of water-based media.

Morning

- Initial introductions
- Frances will lead a series of colour exercises and guided explorations, looking at how colours can be modified and combined to create different weather conditions and atmospheres. The aim is to encourage students to enjoy the versatility of a limited palette.
- Frances will demonstrate ways earths and clays can be consolidated and used in the development of a piece of work, explaining how she mixes commercially produced paint with materials from the land.
- Using these colour mixes, small landscape studies will evolve incorporating natural materials to introduce texture and variation.

Afternoon

- Break for lunch.
- Work begun in the morning will be developed further, with participants using their colour palettes and discoveries with natural materials to develop coastal landscape painting.
- New work will grow out of experiments made in the morning, with a focus on colour, texture and capturing a sense of place.
- Review: There will be a chance to view each other's work and an opportunity to ask questions.

About the Tutor

Frances Hatch is a member of The Royal Watercolour Society. Alongside her plein air landscape practice she has maintained a role as art educator with a particular interest in individual creative development.

Frances was a popular tutor for over 30 years at West Dean College, delivered workshops on their Short Course programme, the Foundation Diploma in Art and Design and was an Associate Lecturer on the Diploma in Art and Contemporary Craft. Her current focus is to deepen in her own practice and relationship with the land.

Materials (keep to a minimum)

- **Paint:** bring either watercolour, gouache **or** acrylic paint. You only need one sort. Be sure to bring a couple of yellows, reds and blues (and white if desired) to offer colour mixing versatility around the colour circle.
- **Palette:** separate deep depressions to stock 'pools' of paint/'potions'. Not a plate. Yoghurt type trays from supermarket shelves are excellent as disposable palettes.
- **6 empty yoghurt pots** or similar
- **Pencil / graphite**
- **Spray:** small plastic 'plant' / cosmetic spray (very necessary)
- **Brushes:** bring around 3 brushes. Ideally one pointed, one flat and one mop.
- **Paper:** 140 lb weight or heavier so we do not need to stretch (NOT or ROUGH surfaces rather than HP or Smooth). I suggest about 5 loose sheets of A3 or 10 of A4
- **Water pot**

Frances will provide:

- **Gatherings of earths and clays** from coastal locations for group use
- **A few cheese graters**
- **A fluid acrylic medium to be used by the whole group**

Useful Links:

Instagram: @francesahatch

Website: <https://franceshatch.co.uk>

Location:

RWS Gallery
3-5 Whitcomb Street
London
WC2H 7HA

Just off Trafalgar Square
Nearest tubes: Leicester Square
and Charing Cross

Nearby parking is very limited.
There is a Q-Park multi-storey
car park at the top of Whitcomb
Street that charges around
£9/hour. If you wish to travel by
car we recommend checking
nearby parking on
parkopedia.com

Lunch & Refreshments

Lunch is not provided and it is recommended that you bring your own food and drink for the day, which can be consumed in the gallery. Students are welcome to use the gallery fridges to store their food and drink. There are also many cafes nearby including a Pret-a-Manger next door to the gallery